

BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE



# The Health of Maidstone

1963



Annual Report of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
F. H. M. DUMMER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE

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ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

- 1963 -

ON THE

HEALTH OF MAIDSTONE

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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F. H. M. DUMMER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE 1963

CHAIRMAN: Councillor J. E. Evans  
VICE-CHAIRMAN: Alderman A. H. Clark

MEMBERS: Aldermen Brittain, Rogers and Sherman  
Councillors Appleton, Farley, Dr. O'Toole,  
Phillips, Stillwell and Warwick.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE MAIDSTONE CORPORATION

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: F.H.M. Dummer, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: A.E. Warren, L.R.C.P.I. and L.M.  
L.R.C.S.I. and L.M.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: A.H. Basford, D.P.A., M.I.P.H.E.  
(1, 2, 3 and 4)

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTOR: G.S. Adams (1 and 2)

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTORS: R.A.R. Key (1, 2 and 3)  
J. Arnold (1, 2 and 3)  
F.H. Piggott (1, 2 and 3)  
R.C. Comport (Pupil)

- Key: 1. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute of Sanitary  
Inspectors Examination Joint Board.  
2. Meat and Other Foods Inspection Certificate of Royal  
Society of Health.  
3. Smoke Inspectors Certificate of Royal Society of Health.  
4. Sanitary Science Certificate of Royal Society of Health.

CLERKS:

M.O.H. Office:

Medical Officer's Secretary - Miss H. Wood

Public Health Inspector's Office:

L. Acott  
Miss J. Smith  
Miss D. French  
Miss C. Avenell



BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE

Telephone:  
Maidstone 4072

Health Department,  
13 Tonbridge Road,  
Maidstone.

5th August, 1964

To The Worshipful The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Maidstone.

Your Worship, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my seventh Annual Report on the Health of Maidstone, being the sixth in the present series started in 1958.

There has been no sign of significant change in the over all statistics for the year 1963, with one possible exception. The birth rate, at 16.33 per thousand of the population (corrected) shows a slight decline in 1963, while the infant mortality rate at 20.36 has fallen slightly from last year, and is a little below the national figure.

This year there were no maternal deaths (one was recorded last year) and there were no deaths of illegitimate infants. The illegitimate birth rate has, however, risen in the year from 4.31 per cent to 6.51 per cent of total live births. This would appear to be an unexpected increase, and having regard to the educational efforts being made in all youth movements throughout the country, is a disappointing figure.

The tuberculosis death rate is approximately keeping pace with the national average, .06 locally as compared with .05 nationally, and the Borough figure is below that for the County of Kent and for the surrounding districts, although one must bear in mind as far as the town is concerned, that it does not possess the accommodation for tuberculosis cases which is available throughout the rural districts.

Once again there were no notifications of either poliomyelitis or diphtheria. Both those diseases should be adequately preventable; only by keeping up a high standard of immunity against them is it possible to prevent sporadic cases breaking bounds.

The outstanding feature in infectious diseases during 1963 was the outbreak of sonne dysentery in the Spring and Summer, when no fewer than 848 cases were notified. This was an extremely widespread outbreak so far as the local area was concerned, and at the same time other parts of Southern England experienced something of a similar order, which in fact



meant that re-infection was constantly occurring in the district. The total amount of work thrown on the Department was enormous, and the facilities were stretched to the uttermost.

The other public health feature which is highlighted by such an outbreak and by the recurrent outbreaks of diseases of the alimentary tract in other places, is the necessity for strict vigilance in food hygiene. The standard of practice in all places selling, preparing and serving food varies very greatly from one establishment to another. Our task is both to standardise the food handling regimen and to improve it. For this dual purpose regular inspections are carried out at such premises, and it is always our endeavour to keep a closer watch on this aspect of public health.

This requires the co-operation of the public who are being educated slowly in this respect to notice defects and to report them. Where complaints are received they are always followed up and the opportunity is taken at this time to ensure that practices within the establishment are up to requirements.

From the detailed report which the Chest Physician has kindly supplied, you will see that although the number of new cases of tuberculosis is low, the total attendances at the Chest Clinic are increasing. The scope of the Chest Clinic has greatly widened in the last few years and indeed it is true to say that the emphasis at the Clinic has changed from tuberculosis to non-tubercular conditions.

One of the major causes of death in 1963 was bronchitis and pneumonia, amounting to 12.9 per cent of the total deaths, and being third in the order of individual causes of death, exceeded only by cancer at 15 per cent, and heart disease at 35 per cent.

An important point made by the Chest Physician in his account is the necessity, which is not at the moment required by law, for the examination of immigrants coming into this country at the port of entry. It has been found that we are slack in the United Kingdom on our health requirements for entry. If such examinations were made a separate requirement it would go a long way in the prevention of the dissemination of disease.

The total deaths from cancer in 1963 fell from 123 in 1962 to 108. This is a welcome reduction, but one must be careful to avoid drawing unwarranted conclusions from the findings of one year. On analysis one is pleased to note that the number of cases of cancer of the lung fell in 1963 to 30 as compared with 38 in 1962. The other significant point in these statistics shows the continuous trend for this disease to be borne by the older age groups, but there are signs that the disease may

be becoming more common in the age group 25-44 years.

Included in this report also are detailed figures on air pollution in the area, and this feature of public health will continue to be reported upon throughout the year.

I am indebted to the Public Health Inspectors for their hard work and co-operation throughout the year, and particularly so to the Chief Public Health Inspector for his account of the services which have been referred to in this report.

The work of the Health Department is essentially one of co-operation and throughout the year I have received the willing assistance of all Chief and Principal Officers of the Council in many aspects of our endeavours to improve the standard of public health.

I am also indebted to the County Medical Officer for statistical information in relation to vaccination and immunisation, to Mr. R. Slater of the Maidstone Waterworks Company, and to Dr. A.L. Furniss of the Public Health Laboratory, with whom we work in close co-operation.

Our efforts ultimately depend upon the goodwill and support of the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, and I am grateful to them for the very close interest which they have taken in all matters reported throughout the year.

I acknowledge, as always, my gratitude to my secretary Miss Helen Wood, who has had a continuous task in formulating the material on which this Report is based.

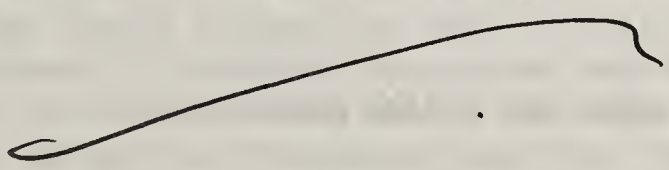
I have the Honour to be,

Your Worship, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

*L. H. M. Dummer.*

Medical Officer of Health.





VITAL STATISTICS 1963

AREA 6,194 acres

ESTIMATED RESIDENT  
POPULATION 61,330SUM REPRESENTED BY A  
PENNY RATE £10,600

Population - Census 1961 ..	..	..	..	59,761
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1963)	..	..	..	18,900
Rateable Value ..	..	..	..	£2,553,604

	Male	Female	Total
LIVE BIRTHS .. .. .	499	483	982
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population crude	-		16.01
corrected	-		16.33

ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS (Per cent of total live births) 6.51

STILL-BIRTHS .. .. .	15	9	24
Still-birth rate per 1,000 live and still-births			23.85
Total live and still-births ..	514	492	1,006

INFANT DEATHS (Deaths under 1 year)	12	8	20
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births			20.36
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			21.78
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births			Nil

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (Per 1,000 total live births) 12.21

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (Per 1,000 total live births) 9.16

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (Per 1,000 total live and still births) 32.80

MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion) ..	..	..	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births)			Nil

	Male	Female	Total
DEATHS .. .. .	346	365	711
Death rate per 1,000 population crude	-		11.59
corrected	-		11.59

DEATH RATE FOR ENGLAND AND WALES .. .. . 12.2



# THE NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN 1963

## SCARLET FEVER 61 cases

For the second year in succession there has been an increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever, from 31 in 1962 to 61 this year. The cases were mild in nature, the distinction between scarlet fever and tonsillitis being not as sharp as previously. In many cases there is no apparent rash, or a very fleeting rash.

## WHOOPING COUGH 23 cases

The number of notified cases of whooping cough rose from 6 in 1962 to 23 in 1963. This disease tends to show a periodic rise and fall, and the numbers involved do not indicate any trend in this particular illness. It is, however, one which it is wise to immunise against because of the potential complications in infancy.

## MEASLES 925 cases

1963 was a year of the biennial epidemic of measles, the number of cases rising to 925. This is a considerable rise as compared with the last outbreak in 1961, and the numbers are probably a reflection of the high birth rate sustained in those two years.

### Biennial Comparison

1958 - 96

1960 - 12

1962 - 155

1959 - 875

1961 - 802

1963 - 925

## DIPHTHERIA Nil

This is the thirteenth year in succession in which there has been no case of diphtheria notified. Again this is a disease from which freedom can only be maintained by regular immunisation in the school population.

## SMALLPOX Nil

No case of smallpox was notified or suspected during the year.

## POLIOMYELITIS Nil

This is the sixth successive year in which no notifications of poliomyelitis have been received, and there is no reason to expect that the trend should be otherwise provided that the maintenance of immunity continues through oral vaccination.

DYSENTERY  
848 cases

The Spring and Summer of 1963 saw one of the largest outbreaks of sonne dysentery which this area has experienced. This is a disease which is extraordinarily difficult to follow epidemiologically, for three particular reasons, (1) the first cases may be so mild that they are not brought to anyone's attention, (2) it is a disease which is notoriously intermittent and clearance of cases may precede a relapse in a large percentage, and (3) there is a very distinct and significant carrier rate amongst the population for a considerable time following local area clearance.

The vast majority of cases were mild in nature, but there were some severe illnesses particularly in the elderly and the very young.

No specific vehicle of infection was discovered in this outbreak, coinciding as it did with a high incidence of dysentery throughout the region and indeed throughout the country. The peculiar nature of dysentery makes it more or less an endemic disease in this country, and only rarely are we subjected to an outbreak of such a widespread nature.

PNEUMONIA  
20 cases

The number of cases of pneumonia rose from 9 in 1962 to 20 cases this year. Once again the majority were in the older age groups.

ERYSIPELAS  
4 cases

Four cases of this mild disease were reported during the year

FOOD POISONING  
4 cases

The number of cases of food poisoning, at 4, was the same as last year. They were all individual incidents and in no case did secondary infection occur.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA  
9 cases

Nine cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified during the year, both from hospital and from domiciliary confinements.



ANALYSIS OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE UNDER AGE GROUPS

	Under 1 year	1 - 2 years	3 - 4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	25 years & over	TOTAL ALL AGES
Scarlet fever	-	6	14	34	3	3	1	61
Whooping cough	3	3	7	8	2	-	-	23
Measles	31	196	224	453	12	7	2	925
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	18	85	89	263	112	51	230	848
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	9
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	3	2	14	20
Typhoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	4
Chicken pox	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	53	291	334	758	133	69	257	1895

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

In the pages which follow, detailed figures are given of the response to vaccination and immunisation as carried out during 1963.

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination

By the end of 1963, 22402 people, including children, had completed a course of three injections, or three oral administrations, or a combined course of injections and oral administrations, with poliomyelitis vaccine. This corresponds to approximately 37 per cent of the Borough's population, remembering that the service is in general restricted to people under the age of forty. Although these figures are reasonable, one would have hoped that the total percentage would be nearer 50-55 per cent, with the proviso mentioned above.

As has been pointed out in other reports, control of an outbreak of poliomyelitis is largely a question of the administration as widely as possible of poliomyelitis vaccine to the population at risk. It therefore seems to me that this is a measure which could reasonably be anticipated and need, in fact, never arise as an emergency, since the method of administration of poliomyelitis vaccine is so easy that one should be able to assume that the up-take prior to the outbreak is so large that the disease is self-limiting.

It would still appear, however, that there is some resistance to this vaccine, and one finds it difficult to appreciate what new persuasion can be brought to bear upon the public at large. No one can really maintain in 1964 that they are unaware of the facilities for vaccination, and one would have thought that the method, which is simplicity itself, would commend itself to the public. Vaccination can be arranged through the School Health Service, through Clinics, and the General Practitioner Service, and it has no side effects.



Poliomyelitis Vaccination (continued)

Year	2nd Injections (SALK)	3rd Dose (SALK & ORAL)	4th Dose (SALK & ORAL)	3 ORALS Complete Course
	-	-	358	-
1963	11	-	-	117
1962	-	20	-	596
1961	-	35	-	90
1957 - 1960	4	32	-	41
1943 - 1956	2	11	-	21
1933 - 1942	1	23	-	121
Others	23	47	-	69
TOTALS	41	168	358	1,055

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Year of Birth	Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in Combination).
	Primary
1963	347
1962	495
1961	34
1960	10
1959	1
1954 - 1958	6
1949 - 1954	-
TOTAL	893

Diphtheria Immunisation

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in Combination)	
	Primary	Reinforcing
1963	349	-
1962	498	14
1961	36	248
1960	12	253
1959	5	73
1954 - 1958	23	484
1949 - 1954	-	1
TOTALS	923	1,073

Once again I am very glad to be able to report that the numbers involved in both primary and reinforcing immunisation against diphtheria have risen since 1962.

This is particularly encouraging since so many parts of the country are reporting a trend in the reverse direction.



Smallpox Vaccination

PRIMARY VACCINATION 1 YEAR	RE-VACCINATION SCHOOL AGE BUT UNDER 8 YEARS
200	3

The numbers involved in smallpox vaccination from this year onwards are in conformity with the County Council's proposals approved as from January 1st 1963, and the only information I have available is as given above.

This leaves a wide gap of information as far as re-vaccinations are concerned, as so many of those cases are undertaken for purely social reasons such as travelling abroad and the common sense protection against this disease in countries where the possibility of infection is relatively high.

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THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

During 1963 it was necessary to obtain a Magistrate's Order in respect of one elderly lady who required institutional care on the grounds that she was living in insanitary conditions.

During the year 13 elderly people were reported to be in need of care and attention. Of these cases 5 were admitted voluntarily to Part III accommodation; 3 were admitted to hospital for psychiatric treatment; 2 (sisters) refused admission to Part III accommodation but applied for an Old Persons' Flatlet; 1 was able to remain in her own home with the assistance of the Domestic Help Service; and private arrangements were made in the remaining two cases.

TUBERCULOSIS1963 Statistics

AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 15	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 25	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
26 - 35	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 - 45	1	3	-	1	1	-	-	-
46 - 55	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
56 - 65	2	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
66 & over	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTALS	14	6	2	3	4	-	-	-

The number of cases of tuberculosis fell during the year from 39 in 1962 to 25 in 1963, including non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The number of deaths during 1963 was the same as the previous year.



I am indebted to Dr. D.L. Pugh, the Chest Physician, for the following account of the work of the Chest Clinic and the voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee.

The following figures refer to the combined areas of Maidstone Borough, Maidstone, Malling and Hollingbourn Rural Districts.

1. Number of contacts, seen during 1963, of newly notified cases of tuberculosis .. .. 287
2. Number of contacts, seen during 1963, of cases notified prior to 1963 .. .. 698
3. Number of contacts in 1. found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis -
4. Number of contacts in 2. found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis 3
5. Arising out of School Heaf Positive Contact 1

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#### THE WORK OF THE CHEST CLINIC AND THE VOLUNTARY TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE

The work of the Chest Clinic and the Voluntary Care Committee has been continued and maintained throughout the year. The following table gives a general survey of the work over the past years since 31st December, 1951:

<u>Date</u>	<u>X-Ray Attendances</u>	<u>New Patients</u>	<u>New &amp; Old Attendances</u>	<u>Clinic Sessions</u>	<u>Number on T.B. Register</u>
31.12.51	6,655	1,521	5,504	255	1,106
31.12.52	6,698	2,264	6,183	250	1,184
31.12.53	8,826	2,000	7,049	250	1,222
31.12.54	8,146	2,417	6,946	250	1,291
31.12.55	8,348	2,076	5,637	296	1,179
31.12.56	9,290	2,274	6,081	303	1,169
31.12.57	9,973	3,125	7,077	267	1,190
31.12.58	9,998	3,233	6,732	255	1,164
31.12.59	10,081	2,910	7,277	246	1,145
31.12.60	10,021	3,516	7,422	256	1,108
31.12.61	9,966	4,275	8,357	244	1,077
31.12.62	8,122	3,967	8,271	241	1,103
31.12.63	8,358	4,062	8,270	247	1,085



## Tuberculosis

The total number of patients on the Tuberculosis Register for the Borough of Maidstone on 31st December 1963, was 436 and this figure with those for the three rural districts give a total of 1,085 for the Mid-Kent Area. During the year 74 patients were "recovered" and the number of new cases diagnosed was 51. Cases "transferred-out" from the area amounted to 27 and 55 cases were "transferred-in" from other areas. The number of cases deceased was 23. It will be noted that more patients were removed from the Tuberculosis Register in 1963 than were notified but that the presence of 51 new cases of tuberculosis in the population is not a matter to be viewed with complacency. With the success that attends the management of tuberculosis in this country, it is essential that the "undetected infector pool" in the population should be sought out by an intensive programme of case-finding and at the same time a rigorous surveillance of the infected "wanderers" who have no fixed abode. In this latter category there is close association with the wardens of Rest Centres to whose co-operation tribute must be paid.

The examination of "contacts" has been maintained and B.C.G. vaccination given to those who have a negative reaction to the tuberculin skin test. The "contacts" who show a strongly positive reaction to the tuberculin skin test are given chemoprophylaxis as already explained in the report for 1962. B.C.G. vaccination is also given to members of the nursing staff of the hospitals who are tuberculin negative reactors. Pupils in the "School-leaver" B.C.G. Scheme who are found to be tuberculin positive reactors are called to the Chest Clinic for an X-ray examination of the chest, their names being received from the Principal School Medical Officer of the County Council.

The work of the Mass Radiography Units continues, under the direction of Dr. G.I. Rees-Jones to "search-out" hitherto unknown disease and a recent survey has been conducted at Leybourne Grange Hospital.

The immigrant population still gives concern to the Chest Service. In the large centres where they take residence it has been found that the incidence rate of tuberculosis is higher than for the local born population and the danger of the immigration of nationals from the countries of the Far East being admitted with disease due to organisms resistant to the specific drugs still emphasizes the need for an X-ray examination of all immigrants at the port of entry, a lamentable omission from the Immigration Act. Such an examination is always undertaken for persons emigrating from this country to other nations including those of the British Commonwealth and should be operative for this country.

## Non-Tuberculous Diseases of the Chest

The statistics shown in the two previous tables cannot give an



adequate account of the work undertaken at the Chest Clinic and the following table is included to show the nature of the various conditions requiring diagnosis, treatment and cure.

Diagnoses of Patients attending Chest Clinic during 1963:

Tuberculosis

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Active	93	
Inactive	920	1013

Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis

Active	13	
Inactive	59	72

Total number of Tuberculosis Register 1085

Inactive Pulmonary Tuberculosis - not notified 105

Non-Tuberculous Diseases of the Chest

Diseases of the Lungs - Infectious 246

- Other conditions  
including sarcoidosis 44

Diseases of the Pleura 66

Diseases of the Glands 13

Neoplasms 57

Cardio-vascular diseases 128

Bronchitis, Emphysema, Asthma 1113

Other conditions 350

This table reveals the number of patients with chronic bronchitis and lung cancer to be of such proportions as to be a mortal hazard. In chronic bronchitis the social conditions, the genetic background, the "chesty child", infection in middle life are all worthy of consideration and the two over-riding factors in the initiation and aggravation of the disease are cigarette smoking and air pollution. The public must be made aware of the significance of an apparently trivial but productive "smoker's cough" so that medical advice may be sought at an early stage in the disease. Chest Clinics, already accustomed to help in the re-ablement of tuberculous patients, could be, and are used to settle the bronchitic invalid in suitable work.

Lung cancer continues to be a major menace to health and life. The trend over the last years indicates that the incidence has not yet reached its peak. The figures are not to be explained as a mere reflection of the introduction and increasing use of improved methods of

diagnosis but must be accepted as representing, in the main, a real rise in the incidence of the disease to an extent which has occurred with no other form of cancer. Only a small part of the rise can be attributed to the larger numbers of older persons now living in the population; in the last ten years the lung cancer death rates among both men and women have risen at all ages from early middle life onwards.

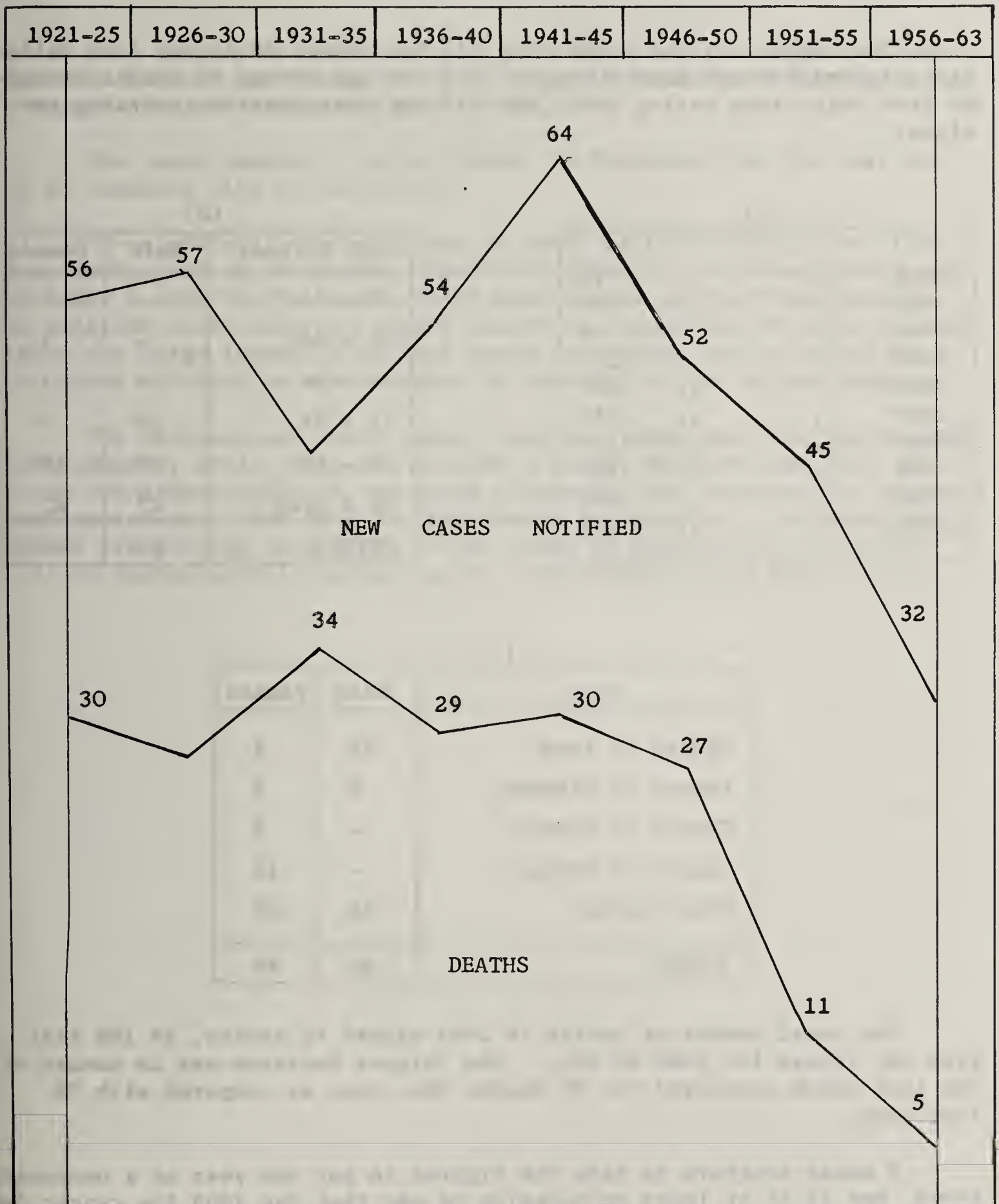
There is no direct evidence of any obvious occupational hazard as a cause of this disease but there are two main environmental factors which contribute to its development - the smoking of tobacco particularly as cigarettes, and atmospheric pollution whether from homes, factories or the internal combustion engine. Smoking of cigarettes produces the inhalation of substances which, if not directly responsible, are known to facilitate the development of a tumour in susceptible subjects. Investigation into lung cancer in men has shown that there is:

1. A higher mortality in smokers than in non-smokers;
2. A higher mortality in heavy smokers than in light smokers;
3. A higher mortality in cigarette smokers than in pipe smokers;
4. A higher mortality in those who continued to smoke than in those who gave it up.

On balance it seems likely that atmospheric pollution plays some part in causing lung cancer, but a relatively minor one in comparison with cigarette smoking. All members of the public and especially the younger should be aware of the inherent danger in the pleasurable habit of smoking, for herein lies seed of early incapacity in middle life and maybe certain death.

"I have set down what comes, to satisfy my remembrance the more strongly". Thus does William Shakespeare give us counsel through Macbeth which we do well to heed, "lest we forget".



PULMONARY TUBERCULOSISQuinquennial Deaths and New Cases Notified.

Averages calculated to whole numbers



CANCER

The tables set out below show (1) the number of deaths from malignant disease for the past 10 years, (2) the age groups of deaths recorded from this cause during 1962, and (3) the distribution according to sites.

(1)

1954	..	..	98
1955	..	..	107
1956	..	..	93
1957	..	..	111
1958	..	..	109
1959	..	..	110
1960	..	..	123
1961	..	..	113
1962	..	..	123
1963	..	..	108

(2)

Age Periods	Male	Female
0 - 14	-	-
15 - 24	-	1
25 - 44	6	3
45 - 54	10	9
55 - 64	17	10
65 & over	27	25
TOTALS	60	48

(3)

Site	Male	Female
Cancer of lung	26	4
Cancer of stomach	8	5
Cancer of uterus	-	4
Cancer of breast	-	11
Other sites	26	24
TOTALS	60	48

The total number of deaths in 1963 caused by cancer, at 108 fell from the figure for 1962 of 123. The largest decrease was in cancer of the lung which accounted for 30 deaths this year as compared with 38 last year.

I would hesitate to take the figures in any one year as a necessary trend, but it is at least encouraging to see that for 1963 the cancer death rate was the lowest since 1956. Once again the significant burden of the disease was borne by the older age groups, but I would point out that there were 9 deaths which arose in the age group 25-44 years.

### INFANTILE MORTALITY

Once again the infant mortality for Maidstone is slightly below that for England and Wales, being 20.36 per thousand live births as compared with the national figure of 20.9.

The total number of infant deaths in Maidstone for the year was 20 as compared with 22 last year.

In an analysis of the causes of death we find that in the first four weeks, out of 12 deaths, 4 were accounted for by prematurity, and at least 2 were due to causes which were almost entirely unavoidable. In addition there were two deaths caused by congenital defects, so that there are large inroads into this death rate which can be traced back to causes on which we are unlikely to improve, to any marked degree.

The national and local trend, however, taken over the period from 1906 onwards, still continues to show a steady decline, and this is borne out dramatically in the graph displaying the quinquennial periodic representation. The rate of improvement is, however, flattening out, and we are getting very close to the limit at which great difficulty will be encountered in making further reductions in the death rate.

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

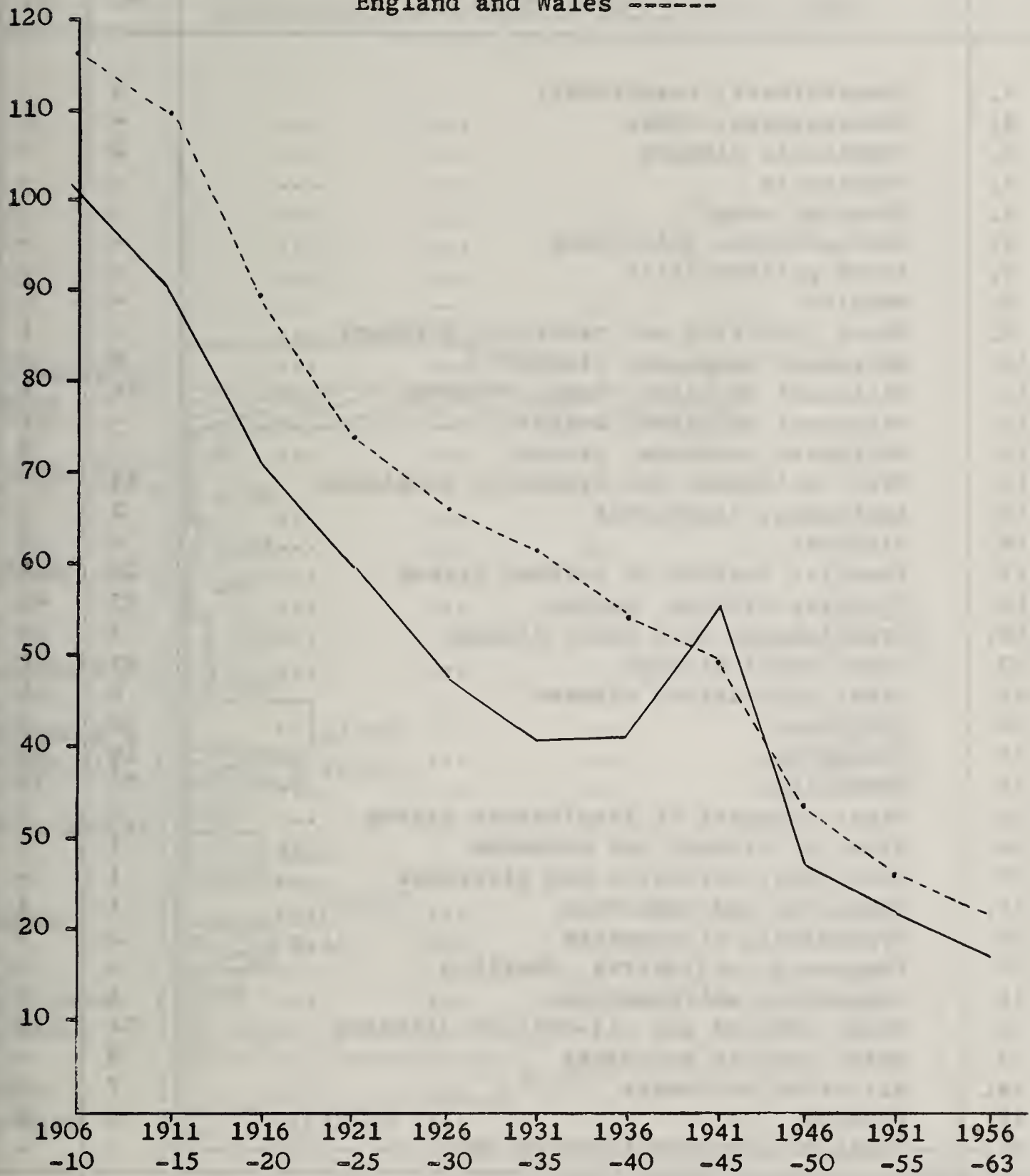
	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total under 1 year
All causes: certified uncertified	9 -	1 -	1 -	1 -	12 -	3 -	5 -	- -	- -	20 -
Atelectasis of lungs	2	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Cerebral haemorrhage	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Congenital defects	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Heart disease	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	3
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
Prematurity	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
Toxaemia	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3
TOTALS	9	1	1	1	12	3	5	-	-	20



# INFANTILE MORTALITY

Maidstone —————

England and Wales - - - - -



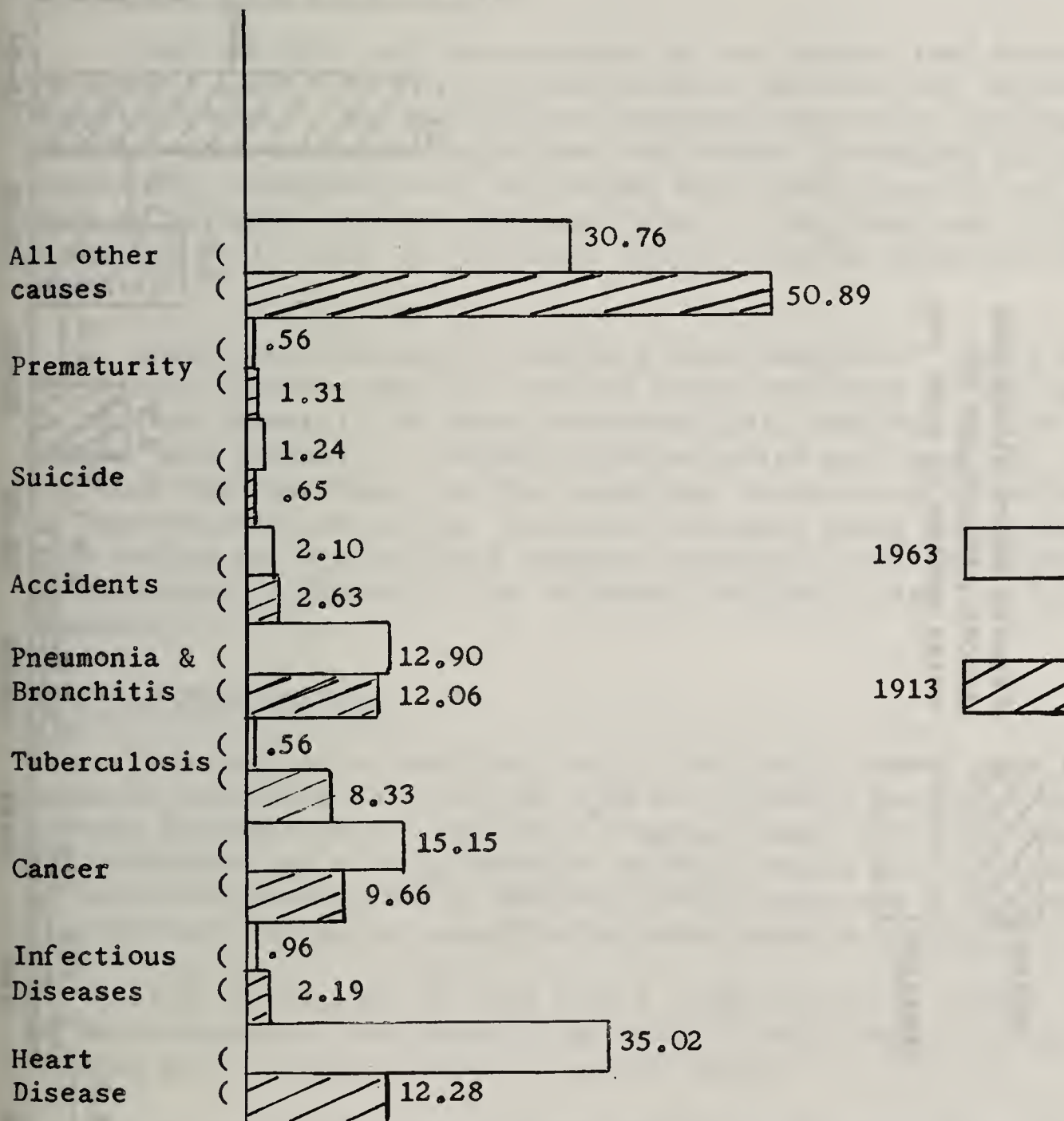
QUINQUENNIAL PERIODS

CAUSES OF DEATH

	CONDITION	M.	F.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	4	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other ... ..	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease ... ..	2	-
4.	Diphtheria ... ..	-	-
5.	Whooping cough ... ..	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections ... ..	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	-	-
8.	Measles ... ..	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	-	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	8	5
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	26	4
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	-	11
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	-	4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	26	24
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	2	2
16.	Diabetes ... ..	-	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	28	49
18.	Coronary disease, angina ... ..	75	42
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	3	10
20.	Other heart disease ... ..	45	78
21.	Other circulatory disease ... ..	8	15
22.	Influenza ... ..	2	4
23.	Pneumonia ... ..	19	30
24.	Bronchitis ... ..	33	10
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	2	7
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	7	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	1	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	2	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations ... ..	4	3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	34	52
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	3	-
34.	All other accidents ... ..	7	5
35.	Suicide ... ..	4	5
36.	Homicide and operations of war ... ..	-	-
	TOTALS ... ..	346	365

THE CHANGING PATTERN OF DISEASE

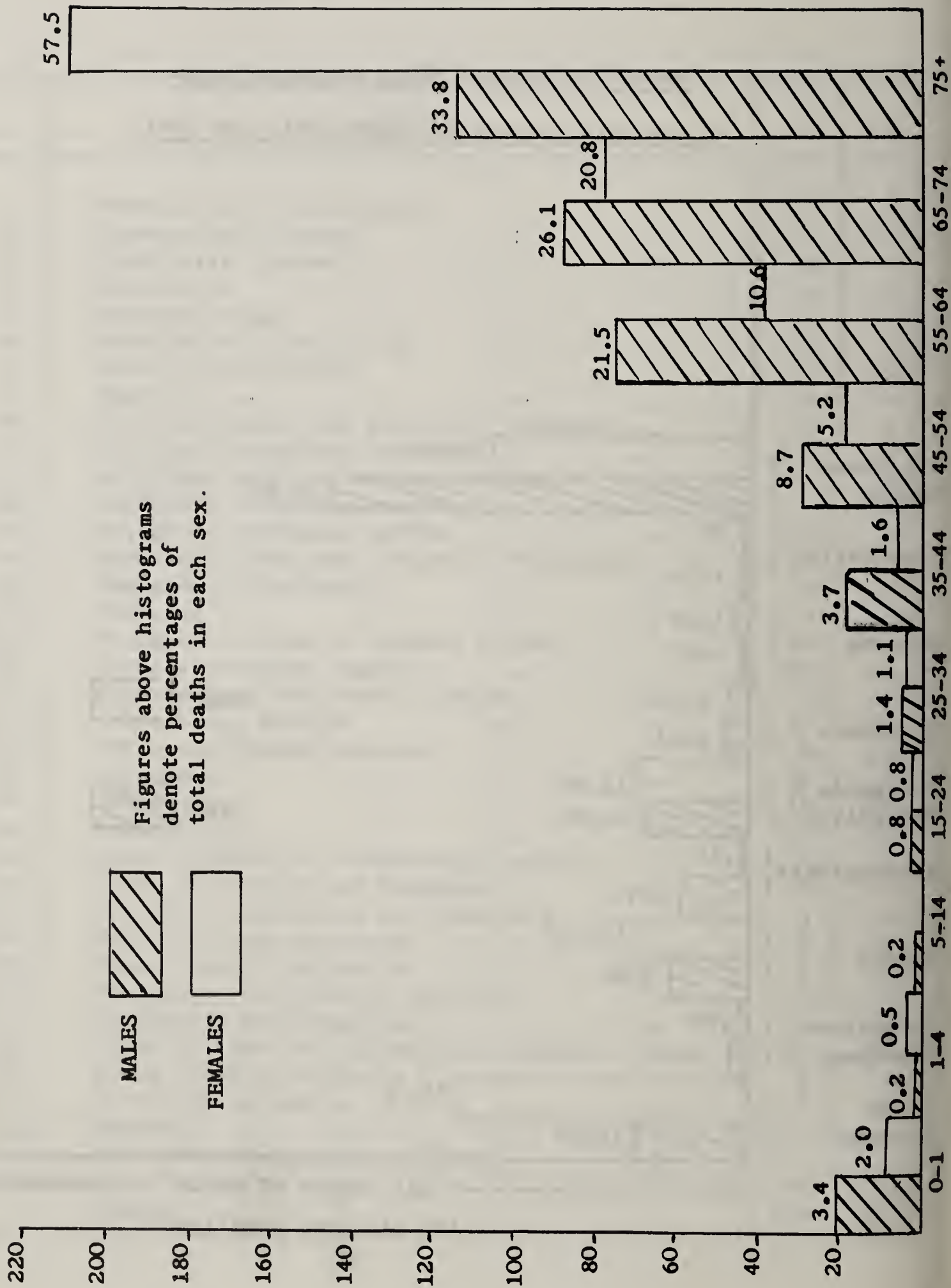
Specific diseases shown as percentages  
of the total number of deaths 1913 and 1963



----- All causes of death -----  
 100 per cent base-line



DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS, 1963



## HEALTH SERVICES OPERATING IN THE AREA

### School Health Service

The School Health Service, with school inspections and clinics, the Maternity and Child Welfare Service and the Domiciliary Midwifery Service, are now administered by the Kent County Council, and are controlled by the County Medical Officer.

### Hospitals

The hospitals are administered by the Central Kent Hospital Management Committee and the South Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. The services of the consultant staff are available at the West Kent General Hospital and the County Ophthalmic and Aural Hospital. Available also in Preston Hall Chest Hospital and use is made by patients from the Maidstone area of the hospitals in the Tunbridge Wells area, particularly Pembury and the Kent and Sussex Hospital.

Additional beds are in use at Linton Hospital. There is now no infectious diseases hospital in this area, and cases in the meantime have to be sent primarily to Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, which entails a fairly long journey. Although representation has been made to the Regional Hospital Board on this question, there is very little likelihood of improved facilities for infectious diseases being available for this area before the new district hospital, scheduled for after 1970, is built in Maidstone. This will, it is hoped, include a wing for infectious diseases.

### Domestic Help Service

This service is administered by the County Council and is of great value in providing care for the aged and disabled patients, and thus relieving pressure on the available hospital beds. I often find that by the judicious use of this service, elderly people are given the advantage of essential domestic help, thereby tiding them over a difficulty which, in other circumstances, would undoubtedly require hospitalization.

It is surprising to find such a large number of elderly people with no near relatives, and often, I am sorry to say, relatives are unwilling to help out at this dependent stage of life.

The services rendered by the Maidstone Personal Service Society and the British Red Cross Society are greatly appreciated and contribute very markedly to the welfare of the old folk.



## CARE OF THE ELDERLY

### THE WARDEN SERVICE

The present Wardens on the Shepway and Park Wood Estates are Mr. & Mrs. A.B. Bottle. Mrs. M.B. Cook is also employed in the Warden Service, but her work relates solely to the flats at Cambridge House. Mrs. R.H. Schofield has been appointed as Warden on the Ringlestone Estate.

I am indebted to Mr. W.R. Thwaites, the Housing Manager, for permission to quote from his report on the second year's working of the Service.

"The Warden Service on the Shepway and Park Wood Estates has now completed its third year. During the year the Wardens have continued to visit and attend old persons on the estates in times of sickness. They have visited many of them in hospital and, on their discharge, have prepared the homes for their return.

"Last winter's severe weather brought a heavier than usual toll of sickness among the elderly and, in addition, brought new problems for the Wardens to cope with in alleviating the discomfort brought about by frozen water supplies and burst pipes.

"In addition to the above and other various duties, the Wardens have made periodic visits to the remaining persons on their Register, but because of the demands brought about by the severe winter, and the increase in the number of old persons on the two estates, visits have not been as regular or as frequent as in the past. This point is raised again later in the report.

"In all, the Wardens have carried out 4,883 recorded visits during the year.

"One of the features of the Service has been the steady increase in the volume of help given by voluntary organisations. The British Red Cross Society, Citizens' Advice Bureau, Women's Voluntary Services, and local Church Committees, have all co-operated most willingly with the Wardens in providing special facilities and equipment when necessary.

"Children from the local schools and various other groups have played their part in providing comforts, food parcels, and outings for some of the old persons.

"A fear has been expressed in some quarters that an extension of the paid Warden Service would diminish the need for voluntary help. The



experience clearly shews these fears to be unfounded. The reverse is the case. The full-time Wardens uncover the need for further help, and this is given enthusiastically by the Voluntary Services.

"The number of persons included in the scheme has again increased, due mainly to the erection of more flats on the Park Wood Estate. The following figures shew the increases since the commencement of the scheme:

	Nov.'60	Nov.'61	Nov.'62	Nov.'63
Number of persons on the visiting Register	350	449	547	671

"In the Housing Manager's report at the end of the first year's working of the Warden Scheme it was pointed out that future building programmes would bring many more elderly persons within the scope of the scheme and that there would come a time when the numbers became so large that the interval between periodic visits lengthened to such an extent as to bring about a failure in this part of the service. The position envisaged is now very near, and the Committee may wish to consider separating the estates and appointing additional Wardens.

"There are, at present, 371 elderly persons on the Wardens' Visiting Register living in the 808 Council dwellings on the Park Wood Estate, 230 dwellings are in course of construction of which 84 are 1-bedroomed units, and further development on this estate is proposed.

"It is estimated that the number of elderly persons on this Estate will increase to between 500 and 600 within the next few years, and it is suggested the position now calls for a separate 'Man and Wife' Warden Service for the Park Wood Estate.

"There are, at present, 300 elderly persons on the Wardens' Visiting Register living in the 2,458 Council dwellings (excluding Cambridge House) on the Shepway Estate. On the nearby Mangravet and Mote Estates there are a further 668 dwellings and, although these are all 3-bedroomed family units, it is estimated that there are at least 50 elderly persons on each estate.

"It is suggested that the Mangravet and Mote Estates be added to the Warden Service existing on Shepway Estate. The proposed new development at Senacre Wood would eventually be included in this area."



### WATER SUPPLIES

The Maidstone Waterworks Company supplies the Borough of Maidstone and parts of the surrounding rural districts. The demand for water, both for domestic and commercial use is steadily increasing.

#### SIZES AND LENGTHS OF MAINS LAID WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE DURING 1963

Size of Main	Location	Length in Yards
6"	Willington Street	115
6"	St. Andrews Road	100
3"	Neville Close	45
3"	Somerfield Road.	150
3"	276 Tonbridge Road	120
4"	" " "	1
6"	" " "	45
3"	Beverley Estate, Tonbridge Road	132
4"	" " " "	14
3"	Barming Place	94
4"	" "	276
6"	Loose Road	50
8"	" "	32
12"	" "	1137
3"	Oakwood Park	22
4"	" "	69
3"	Garden Close	45
8"	Bishops Way	100
4"	Armstrong Road	285
3"	Boxley Close	430
4"	Park Avenue	155
3"	Cripple Street	76
4"	" "	232
6"	" "	110
6"	Croudace Estate	16
3"	Poplar Grove	84
3"	Queens Road	140
4"	" "	440
6"	" "	70
4"	Allen Estate	130
4"	Downs View Estate	260
4"	Allington Estate	224
9"	" "	209
4"	Vinters Road	113
3"	Gatland Lane	100
4"	" "	31

Chemical analyses and bacteriological examination of the water are carried out monthly, some by the Company's own Analyst, and some by the Public Health Laboratory. The results of examinations are consistently satisfactory, showing the water to be of a high standard.

The following table shows a typical result of the chemical analyses of water during the year.

	Boarley Springs	Cossington No.3 Spring	Forstal Well	Farleigh Pumping Station	Cossington Springs (1,2 & 3)	Boxley Well	Boxley Borehole	Hockers Lane Borehole
Total solid residue	414	326	593	545	275	310	278	336
Chlorine	23.5	19.4	50.5	36.7	20.4	20.4	20.9	29.1
Nitrogen (nitrites)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nitrogen (nitrates)	4.8	2.4	2.0	2.0	3.2	1.6	0.4	3.7
Ammonia saline	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ammonia albuminoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oxygen absorbed ( $\frac{1}{4}$ hour at 27°C)	0.11	0.125	0.18	0.11	0.12	0.09	0.13	0.14
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 27°C)	0.15	0.25	0.22	0.16	0.16	0.23	0.20	0.19
Total hardness	293	263	430	320	212	253	125	196



WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)

The water supply in the area of Maidstone Borough has been of satisfactory quality and quantity during 1963.

Bacteriological examinations have been made of both raw and treated water -

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Raw Water	45	9	54
Treated Water	96	-	96
TOTALS	141	9	150

All unsatisfactory samples of water were investigated and subsequent bacteriological analyses proved satisfactory.

Chemical analyses -

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Raw Water	45	-	45
Treated Water	44	-	44
TOTALS	89	-	89

The water supply in Maidstone is not liable to plumbo-solvent action, and the natural fluoride content is 0.08 parts per million.

There are now no houses served by standpipes or private water supplies and therefore the whole population, 61,330, is served by the statutory supply undertaking.

SEWERAGE

The reconstruction and extension of the Corporation's sewage disposal works at Aylesford was in an advanced stage of completion at the end of 1963.

The works detailed below were carried out in the Borough during 1963.

Location	Size (diameter)	Surface Water Sewer (lin.yds)	Foul Sewer (lin.yds)
Allen Estate, Willington Street	6"	-	224
Barming Place Estate	6"	-	341
Barming Place Estate	9"	-	218
Bockingford Farm Estate (Part)	6"	-	82
Bockingford Farm Estate	9"	-	540
Boxley Close	6"	-	328
Cripple Street	6"	-	582
Cripple Street	9"	-	195
Gatland Lane	9"	-	408
Gatland Lane	9"	267	-
Tonbridge Road	9"	-	150
		267	3,068



FOOD HYGIENE

1. NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE BOROUGH .. .. 592

<u>Class</u>	<u>Number</u>
Restaurants and Cafes .. ..	44
Hotels .. ..	11
School Canteens .. ..	17
Public Houses .. ..	84

Food Shops:

Butchers .. ..	45
Fruit and Greengrocers .. ..	117
Bakers .. ..	18
Fishmongers .. ..	12
Fried Fish Shops .. ..	13
Grocers and Provision Merchants .. ..	150
Tobacconists and Confectioners .. ..	44
Mobile Shops .. ..	21
Others .. ..	16

Where more than one food business is carried on in any premises only those businesses which form a substantial proportion of the trade on the premises are classified above.

2. FOOD PREMISES BY TYPE REGISTERED WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITY UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955, LOCAL BYELAWS AND THE MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959.

Ice-cream manufacturers .. ..	4
Ice-cream sellers .. ..	219
Preserved foods manufacturers .. ..	31
Margarine, Margarine-cheese and Milk-blended Butter (wholesale dealers) .. ..	7
Artificial cream dealers .. ..	3
Dairies .. ..	4
Milk Distributors (Sterilised Milk 77) .. ..	111

3. NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS OF REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES .. 366

FOOD AND DRUGS, 1963      During the year the following samples of Food and Drugs were taken for analysis and the results are recorded below.

Article	Number of Samples obtained	Number Genuine
Milk      ..      ..      ..	109	77
School Milk ..      ..      ..	20	19
Milk for M.A.F.F.      ..      ..	122	108
Sterilised milk      ..      ..	12	12
Ground ginger      ..      ..	1	1
Hamburger patties      ..      ..	1	1
Fish, tinned      ..      ..	2	2
Butter, Dripping and Lard      ..	4	4
Pork sausages      ..      ..	6	6
Beef sausages      ..      ..	2	2
Ice-cream      ..      ..      ..	7	7
Cheese spread      ..      ..	1	1
Meringue powder      ..      ..	1	1
Macaroon Mix      ..      ..	1	1
Butter Beans      ..      ..	1	1
Digestif tablets      ..      ..	1	1
Orange juice      ..      ..	1	1
Soups      ..      ..      ..	2	2
Liver salts and Senna pods      ..	2	2
Sausages, canned      ..      ..	1	1
Halibut Oil capsules      ..      ..	1	1
Doughnut mix and Flour      ..	2	2
Buttered rolls and buns      ..	4	2
Fish paste      ..      ..      ..	1	1
Boiled sweets and licquorice sticks	8	7
Tomatoes, tinned      ..      ..	1	1
Drinking chocolate      ..      ..	1	1
Desiccated coconut      ..      ..	1	1
Gravy powder      ..      ..	1	1
Gingernuts      ..      ..      ..	1	1
Camphorated Oil and Castor Oil      ..	2	2
Fresh vegetables      ..      ..	3	3
Ointments      ..      ..      ..	2	2
Saccharine tablets      ..      ..	1	1
Friars Balsam      ..      ..	1	1
Evaporated milk      ..      ..	2	2
Malt vinegar      ..      ..	1	1
Instant jelly      ..      ..	1	1
Flavouring      ..      ..      ..	2	2
	333	283



During 1963, foods of various descriptions, in the following quantities were found to be unfit for human consumption. This unfit food, which in every case was surrendered, included the following:-

				cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Bacon	..	..	..	13	3	2
Meat, tinned	..	..	..	10	0	25
Pork	..	..	..	9	1	18
Beef	..	..	..	1	2	19
Ham	..	..	..	1	1	24
Potatoes	..	..	..	6	2	0
Chicken	..	..	..		1	1
Cheese	..	..	..			20
Dried fruit	..	..	..			16
Sugar	..	..	..			12
Sausages	..	..	..			4
Jam and Marmalade	..	..	..			662
Solid Pack Apples and Plums	..	..	..	..	533 bushels	
Fruit, tinned	..	..	..	..	2,763 tins	
Tomatoes, tinned	..	..	..	..	1,118 tins	
Vegetables, tinned	..	..	..	..	1,070 tins	
Frozen Foods	..	..	..	..	1,070 packets	
Cream, tinned	..	..	..	..	556 tins	
Milk, tinned	..	..	..	..	404 tins	
Soup, tinned	..	..	..	..	219 tins	
Fish, fresh	..	..	..	..	28 stones	
Fish, tinned	..	..	..	..	131 tins	
Cakes	..	..	..	..	120	
Cake mixes	..	..	..	..	85 packets	
Rice, tinned	..	..	..	..	114 tins	
Baked Beans, tinned	..	..	..	..	111 tins	
Stewed Steak, tinned	..	..	..	..	99 tins	
Fruit Juices, tinned	..	..	..	..	111 tins	
Beverages, tinned	..	..	..	..	9 tins	
Custard powder	..	..	..	..	72 packets	
Biscuits	..	..	..	..	29 packets	
Spaghetti, tinned	..	..	..	..	18 tins	
Puddings, tinned	..	..	..	..	14 tins	
Paste	..	..	..	..	29 jars	
Sauces and Pickles	..	..	..	..	8 jars	
Sweets	..	..	..	..	11 packets	
Jellies	..	..	..	..	9 packets	

FOOD AND FOOD HYGIENE

Routine inspection of food premises was maintained throughout the year.

A baker was fined £20 for selling a cream bun which was not of the substance demanded by the purchaser in that it contained a piece of glass, contrary to Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

A dairyman was fined £5 under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for selling a bottle of orange drink which contained foreign matter.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASES) REGULATIONS, 1953

It was not found necessary to issue any Notices under the above Regulations to control the spread of infection through the handling of food.



MEAT INSPECTION: The number of carcasses inspected and the amount condemned in 1963 are as follows:-

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ) Number inspected)	1,629	404	369	4,955	4,843	-
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS &amp; CYSTICERCI</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	3	28	24	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	326	169	20	687	1,454	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerchi	20.07	42.10	6.23	14.43	30.52	-
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	1	-	-	41	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.12	0.25	-	-	0.85	-
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	17	3	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	17	3	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

## HOUSING STATISTICS

### I. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

(1)(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. .. .	2,575
(b)	Number of inspections made for that purpose ..	6,489
(2)(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-section (1) above) which were inspected and re-recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 .. .. .	-
(b)	Number of inspections made for that purpose ..	-
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. .. .	80
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .. .. .	63

### II. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers .. .. .	40
---	----

### III. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

#### A. PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE HOUSING ACT, 1957

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices -	
(a)	by owners .. .. .	-
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners ..	-



## B. PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..	95
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice -	
(a)	by owners .. .. .	7
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners ..	-

## C. PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE HOUSING ACT, 1957

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. .	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. .	41
(3)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..	1
(4)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .. ..	Nil

IV. HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART 4 - OVERCROWDING.

(a)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .. .. .	3
(b)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .. .. .	-
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..	-
(c)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ..	-

V. RENT ACT, 1957

(1)	Certificates applied for .. .. .	-
(2)	Visits made .. .. .	-
(3)	Undertakings accepted .. .. .	-
(4)	Certificates of Disrepair granted .. .. .	-
(5)	Applications not accepted .. .. .	-

NEW BUILDING

The following table sets out the provision of accommodation erected in 1963 by the Local Authority.

	Flats	Bungalows	Houses	Total
Shepway Ward	192	7	67	266

Of the above units, 7 bungalows and 100 flats were constructed for occupation by old people.

In addition, 116 dwellings were built during the year by private enterprise.

HOUSING STATISTICS

(a)	Number of new properties handed over during year	266
(b)	Families rehoused (including 92 families from condemned properties) .. .. .	393
(c)	Number of transfers .. .. .	144
(d)	Number of mutual exchanges between Council tenants .. .. .	58
(e)	Housing applications as at 31st December, 1963	1,942
(f)	Number of families rehoused where the Child Help Service was put into operation ..	5



INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES

Bakehouse inspections	..	..	..	..	14
Chimneys repaired	..	..	..	..	1
Cement sinks removed and glazed provided			..	..	-
Cooking stoves renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	1
Dairies and Milkshops inspected	..	..	..	..	131
Common Lodging House inspections	..	..	..	..	14
Coppers repaired	..	..	..	..	-
Drains choked and cleansed by flushing staff			..	..	251
" reconstructed	..	..	..	..	1
" inspection chambers provided	..	..	..	..	7
" stoneware pipes laid, feet	..	..	..	..	51
" iron pipes laid, feet	..	..	..	..	-
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	..	1
Factory, workplaces and outworkers premises inspected			..	..	326
Grates renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	1
Houses, floors to living-rooms provided or repaired			..	..	8
" chuting or guttering repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	9
" roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	10
" rooms where dirty or loose paper has been removed and walls and ceilings repaired and distempered			..	..	22
" walls made dry by insertion of damp course or other method	..	..	..	..	32
Inquiries into cases of infectious diseases	..	..	..	..	1,366
Inspection of houses on complaint or otherwise	..	..	..	..	5,152
Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	221
Miscellaneous defects remedied	..	..	..	..	35
Public Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	70
Restaurants and Cafes inspected	..	..	..	..	71
Schools inspected	..	..	..	..	39
Sinks or other wastepipes removed, disconnected or trapped					-
" new channels provided or repaired			..	..	1
W.C.'s, walls and ceilings repaired	..	..	..	..	5
" new pans, traps and seats provided			..	..	5
Window frames repaired	..	..	..	..	4
Verminous rooms cleansed	..	..	..	..	-
Yard pavement repaired or provided in connection with houses					-
Preliminary Notices served	..	..	..	..	53
Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	..	7

(1) **INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES** - including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Inspections (2)	Number of Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories with Mechanical Power ..	297	5	-
Factories without Mechanical Power ..	18	-	-
Other Premises .. ..	11	-	-
Total .. ..	326	5	-

(2) **DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES**

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Factories Acts, 1937 and the Public Health Act 1936.				
Want of Cleanliness .. ..	-	-	-	-
Want of ventilation .. ..	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding .. ..	-	-	-	-
Want of drainage floors .. ..	-	-	-	-
Other nuisances .. ..	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Accommodation:				
Insufficient .. ..	-	-	-	-
Unsuitable or defects .. ..	3	1	2	-
Not separate for sexes .. ..	-	-	-	-
Offences under the Factories Act, 1937:				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s.54)	-	-	-	-
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork) .. ..	-	-	-	-
Total .. ..	3	1	2	-



# FACTORIES

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1963 FOR THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE IN THE COUNTY OF KENT

### Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

#### PART I OF THE ACT

#### I. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	39	18	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	272	297	5	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	14	11	-	-
Total	325	326	5	-

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate venti- lation (S.4) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	3	1	2	3	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act, (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Total ..	3	1	2	3	-



## PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork  
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing) Making apparel) etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-
) Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-	-
) and	-	-	-	-	-	-
) Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Household Linen	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains & nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery	2	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate	-	-	-	-	-	-
File making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fur pulling	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel cables & chains	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cart gear	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locks, latches and keys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-

## PART VIII OF THE ACT - Outwork - Cont'd.

Nature of work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Artificial flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets, other than wire nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sacks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Racquet and tennis balls	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper bags	-	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pea picking	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feather sorting	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carding etc. of buttons etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basket making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chocolates and sweetmeats	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosques, Christmas Stockings etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile weaving	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4	-	-	-	-	-



VERMINOUS DWELLINGS

During the year 1963, the following work in the eradication of bugs and other vermin was carried out.

(a) Council Houses found to be infested	..	7
(b) Other houses found to be infested	..	4

## Council Houses disinfested:-

(a) By gassing	..	..	..	-
(b) By spraying and the burning of insecticides	..	..	..	7

## Other houses disinfested:-

(a) By gassing	..	..	..	-
(b) By spraying and the burning of insecticides	..	..	..	4

Verminous households fumigated before removal to a Council House or during transfer to another Council House -

Council Houses inspected and found clean	..	182
Other houses inspected and found clean	..	161

PREMISES CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS

Common Lodging Houses	..	..	..	2
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	1
Dairies	..	..	..	4

### PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

The present public swimming baths, which were built in 1852, further works being carried out in 1895, provide a very useful amenity to the district. However, there are inherent difficulties in the management of these baths, and this is particularly so in the internal organisation at the present site.

During the year 30 samples of water were taken from the pools for bacteriological examination, and all were found to be satisfactory.

The water is supplied through the Maidstone Waterworks Company with the same source as the town supply. The water undergoes a process of constant change, filtration and purification, and the purity of the supply is secured by a break-point, or super-chlorination system.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are two common lodging houses in the town, both in Upper Stone Street. Nos. 77 Upper Stone Street, and 117/119 Upper Stone Street are registered premises but the Council at the end of the year were negotiating for the acquisition of Nos.117/119 with a view to its demolition and redevelopment in conjunction with an adjoining cleared site in Waterloo Street.

No.77 Upper Stone Street was included in a Compulsory Purchase Order which was submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government who held a public inquiry into the Council's proposals, but the Minister's decision had not been received by the end of the year. The acquisition of No.117/119 Upper Stone Street, the other common lodging house, was completed during the year.

Kingsman's Yard, Upper Stone Street, and 92 Upper Stone Street, mentioned in last year's report, were demolished in a clearance area under the Housing Act, 1957, after the properties had been acquired by means of a Compulsory Purchase Order.

During the year 14 inspections were made of common lodging houses.



## AIR POLLUTION

The period covered by this section of the report is from April 1962 to March 1963.

In November 1962, the Chief Public Health Inspector submitted two long reports to the Public Health Committee. The first was on the measurement of air pollution and the second on the making of smoke control areas. He analysed the results of the second year's measurement of air pollution and compared them with those of the previous year. Commenting that there had been an improvement in boilerhouse practice in the town's industries, he said it was becoming more apparent that the present smoke pollution is largely domestic in origin and will not be reduced substantially until smoke control areas have been set up.

Concerning the making of smoke control areas, the Chief Public Health Inspector drew attention to the powers already possessed by the Council to make those areas. He said that in Maidstone there are none of the blatant forms of pollution which arouse public opinion into demanding a general attack, but there are more subtle forms of pollution to which public opinion cannot readily be awakened. The need for action now, he said, is none the less pressing because of public apathy and because conditions are not as bad as in the industrial Midlands and North of the country. He gave details of the cost that would fall upon private house owners, the Housing Committee, the Public Health Committee and the Government in the making of smoke control areas throughout the town over a period of between five and ten years.

After a lengthy discussion, the Public Health Committee agreed that the Chief Public Health Inspector should continue to measure air pollution in the Borough, but that no further action should be taken for the time being with regard to the establishment of a smoke control area or areas within the Borough.

The measurement of air pollution in the Borough continued at the same recording stations at Barming Reservoir, Tonbridge Road, Rootes Garages, Mill Street, and the Sports Pavilion, Penenden Heath.

The following tables show for each station in Winter and Summer the undissolved and total solids, the daily concentrations of smoke and sulphur dioxide and the distribution of wind and rainfall. The importance of these figures lies not so much in their absolute values as in their variations, both in the short and the long terms.

Undissolved Matter

The average monthly total deposits of undissolved solids per square mile at each of the Maidstone stations in 1962/63 was as follows:-

<u>Station</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Summer</u>
Barming	3.57 tons	4.61 tons
Town Centre	6.45 tons	7.39 tons
Penenden Heath	3.47 tons	5.90 tons

Sulphur Dioxide

The seasonal average concentrations (in microgrammes/cubic metre) of sulphur dioxide at each of the stations in 1962/63 were as follows:-

<u>Station</u>	<u>Winter</u>		<u>Summer</u>	
	<u>Week-days</u>	<u>Week-ends</u>	<u>Week-days</u>	<u>Week-ends</u>
Barming	155	74	73	45
Town Centre	174	89	69	42
Penenden Heath	109	50	55	38

Table of five months' Averages  
Microgrammes/cubic metre

	<u>Summer</u>				<u>Winter</u>			
	1961		1962		1961/62		1962/63	
	<u>Week-days</u>	<u>Week-ends</u>	<u>Week-days</u>	<u>Week-ends</u>	<u>Week-days</u>	<u>Week-ends</u>	<u>Week-days</u>	<u>Week-ends</u>
Barming	76	58	66	44	155	110	165	79
Town Centre	131	69	69	42	166	166	183	93
Penenden Heath	99	55	53	36	126	86	115	52
Averages	102	61	63	41	149	124	154	75



Smoke

The average daily concentration of smoke (microgrammes/cubic metre) at each of the stations in 1962/63 was as follows:-

	<u>Winter</u>		<u>Summer</u>	
	<u>Week-days</u>	<u>Week-ends</u>	<u>Week-days</u>	<u>Week-ends</u>
Barming	113	71	26	21
Town Centre	157	82	21	16
Penenden Heath	60	50	13	11

Weather Conditions

The extraordinarily severe winter at the beginning of 1963 had an unusual effect on the amount of air pollution recorded, but the extent to which the pollution was reduced solely because of meteorological conditions alone cannot be estimated.

During a dense fog on 6th and 7th December 1962, the concentration of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the town centre at times was more than one half that of a London Smog.

DEPOSITSUndissolved Solids (U/S) (tons/sq.mile/month)Total Solids (T/S) (tons/sq.mile/month)

	Barming		Town Centre		Penenden Heath	
	U/S	T/S	U/S	T/S	U/S	T/S
<u>Summer</u>						
April	3.91	9.28	8.05	14.38	5.40	10.10
May	6.13	12.56	8.61	17.13	7.95	12.99
June	5.80	7.82	8.58	11.66	7.19	9.97
July	5.44	11.84	6.79	10.80	5.37	9.64
August	3.61	5.63	6.73	10.11	6.13	10.63
September	2.78	6.56	5.57	15.74	3.38	7.95
<u>Averages</u>	4.61	8.95	7.39	12.47	5.90	10.61
<u>Winter</u>						
October	3.25	8.48	5.63	9.80	1.99	4.74
November	1.92	6.53	5.04	10.18	2.06	7.89
December	3.28	7.55	7.32	15.60	8.25	12.69
January	3.55	10.24	6.83	15.38	1.62	6.82
February	2.45	5.30	4.31	7.89	1.59	4.31
March	6.96	12.69	8.15	14.81	5.30	9.87
<u>Averages</u>	3.57	8.46	6.21	12.18	3.47	7.72



SMOKE (microgrammes/cu. metre)

	Barming			Town Centre			Penenden Heath		
	Highest	Average	Lowest	Highest	Average	Lowest	Highest	Average	Lowest
<u>Summer</u>									
April	108	41	11	108	23	1	29	10	-
May	88	32	12	12	5	1	10	4	1
June	49	11	1	13	-	1	7	3	-
July	42	19	4	57	30	5	56	18	10
August	29	16	5	89	28	11	53	17	1
September	91	29	4	98	35	3	65	22	4
<u>Average</u>		24			21			12	
<u>Winter</u>									
October	169	82	9	211	118	14	193	76	10
November	496	87	19	584	122	44	184	62	8
December	868	114	12	1408	194	24	564	101	20
January	444	113	16	524	141	16	364	75	4
February	224	122	44	328	156	56	140	71	24
March	196	86	28	234	72	20	148	52	16
<u>Average</u>		101			134			73	

	Barming			Town Centre			Penenden Heath		
	Highest	Average	Lowest	Highest	Average	Lowest	Highest	Average	Lowest
<u>Summer</u>									
April	162	85	32	164	56	15	100	60	28
May	205	96	45	72	42	19	118	62	23
June	87	43	6	132	52	16	87	40	9
July	120	55	24	140	75	38	102	50	16
August	90	43	16	120	64	13	79	38	8
September	104	63	13	168	76	18	124	52	9
<u>Average</u>		64			61			54	
<u>Winter</u>									
October	247	89	17	237	113	35	141	66	18
November	468	118	6	427	126	-	262	95	15
December	716	153	18	662	160	82	514	111	53
January	585	191	63	612	229	39	758	131	21
February	253	146	60	384	164	74	243	84	36
March	153	83	17	281	104	52	150	64	13
<u>Average</u>		125			149			92	



Birth-rates, Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality  
in the year, 1963

Area	Rate per 1,000 population	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 population				Rate per 1,000	
		All Causes	Tuberculosis	Cancer of Lung	Other Cancer	Total deaths under 1 year	Related Births.
England and Wales	18.2	12.2	.05	.51	1.65	20.9	17.3
Hollingbourn R.D.	21.06	11.35	-	.50	1.85	35.29	22.98
Maidstone R.D.	21.14	10.77	.09	.68	1.56	18.77	16.16
Malling R.D.	20.28	13.49	.27	.59	1.67	18.43	14.95
Maidstone Borough	16.33	11.59	.06	.48	1.27	20.36	23.85
County of Kent	17.46	12.50	.09	.55	1.65	18.80	17.51

METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS 1963

MONTH	Average Barometer	Average Thermo- meter (maximum)	Average Thermo- meter (minimum)	Rainfall	Number of days on which .01 fell	Sunshine	
						Hours	Minutes
January	30.37	32	25	.66	8	24	30
February	30.02	36	27	.64	10	60	42
March	30.00	50	39	3.21	18	101	12
April	30.02	55	42	2.62	14	101	42
May	30.08	60	45	2.22	13	173	00
June	30.07	67	52	2.02	14	165	00
July	30.22	69	53	1.33	8	206	30
August	29.96	65	53	3.29	18	138	12
September	30.20	64	50	2.17	13	101	42
October	30.23	55	45	1.69	13	55	30
November	30.75	53	42	4.55	21	31	30
December	30.21	40	32	.76	9	18	00
Averages and totals for the year	30.17	53	42	25.16	159	1,177	30



BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONEGeneral Summary

Population (estimated 1963)	..	..	..	..	61,330
Number of inhabited houses (1921)	..	..	..	..	8,472
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1963) according to Rate Books	..	..	..	..	18,900
Average number of persons per house (1921)	..	..	..	..	4.6
Average number of persons per house (1963)	..	..	..	..	3.2
Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	6,194
Density (persons per acre)	..	..	..	..	9.901
Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	16.33
Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	11.59
Phthisis Death Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	0.06
Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	1.76
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	20.36
Live Births:        Males - 499        Females - 483					982
Deaths:            Males - 346        Females - 365					711
Excess of Births over Deaths	..	..	..	..	271

ELEVATION - The population resides at a mean elevation of 70 feet above sea level, ranging from 20 feet to 150 feet.

## I N D E X

Acknowledgements	..	4	Inspections	..	41
Air Pollution	..	49-54	Kent County Council	..	26
Analyses: Water Supplies		30	Maidstone Waterworks Company		29
Mortality Rates		55	Measles	..	6
Area ..	..	5	Meat Inspection	..	37
Baths	..	48	Meteorological Records	..	56
Birth Rates	..	5, 55	National Assistance Acts	..	12
Byelaw Control	..	47	Neonatal Mortality	..	5
Cancer	..	19, 55	Notifiable Diseases	..	6-8
Chest Clinic	..	14-17	Overcrowding	..	39
Common Lodging Houses	..	48	Pneumonia	..	7
Death Rates	..	5, 23-25, 55	Polio-myelitis	..	6, 9-10
Defective dwellings		38-39	Population	..	5
Diphtheria	..	6, 11	Prematurity	..	20
Disease, changing pattern		24	Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1953		36
Domestic Help Service	..	26	Puerperal Pyrexia	..	7
Dysentery	..	7	Quinquennial reviews	..	18, 22
Elderly, Care of	..	27-28	Scarlet fever	..	6
Erysipelas	..	7	School Health Service	..	26
Factories	..	42-46	Sewerage	..	32
Flats ..	..	40	Smallpox	..	6, 12
Food and Food Hygiene	..	33-36	Staff	..	1
Food Poisoning	..	7	Still-births	..	5, 55
General Summary	..	57	Swimming Baths	..	48
Health Committee	..	1	Tuberculosis	..	13-18, 55
Hospitals	..	26	Tuberculosis Care Committee		14-17
Housing	..	38-40	Vaccination	..	9-12
Housing Statistics	..	38-39	Verminous dwellings	..	47
Immunisation	..	9-12	Vital Statistics	..	5
Infantile Mortality		20-22, 55	Water Supplies	..	29-31
Infectious Diseases	..	6-8	Whooping cough	..	6, 10



